

Message Text

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15

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02
/058 W

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R 091930Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3358

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY PORT

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 5362

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PINS, JM

SUBJECT: BAN ON POLITICAL PROCESSIONS IN KINGSTON-ST. ANDREW AREA

REFERENCE: KINGSTON 5253

1. ACCORDING TO THE "DAILY GLEANER", DECEMBER 9, THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE AND THE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE JAMAICA DEFENSE FORCE HAVE BANNED "ALL POLITICAL PROCESSIONS INCLUDING MARCHES AND MOTORCADES" IN KINGSTON-ST. ANDREW CORPORATE AREA. THIS PROHIBITION, EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 8, IS AUTHORIZED BY THE EMERGENCY POWERS REGULATIONS AND IS RESULT OF CONTINUING POLITICALLY-MOTIVATED VIOLENCE IN CORPORATE AREA.

2. ACCORDING TO THE JOINT STATEMENT OF THE POLICE COMMISSIONER AND JDF CHIEF OF STAFF, POLITICAL MEETINGS ARE STILL PERMISSIBLE. HOWEVER, CANDIDATES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO HAVE LARGE CROWDS ACCOMPANY THEM FOR HOUSE-TO-HOUSE CANVASSING. IN ADDITION, NO PUBLIC ASSEMBLIES WILL BE PERMITTED ANYWHERE IN JAMAICA ON ELECTION DAY ITSELF. AFTER CASTING THEIR BALLOTS, VOTERS ARE TO LEAVE POLLING PLACES IMMEDIATELY AND RETURN TO THEIR RESIDENCES OR PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT. ANYONE FOUND COMMITTING A BREACH OF

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THE PEACE, UP TO AND INCLUDING ELECTION DAY, WILL

BE DETAINED UNDER THE EMERGENCY REGULATIONS.

3. COMMENT: THE REFTEL REPORTED THAT POLITICAL
VIOLENCE HAS CONTINUED TO GROW. THE BAN IS A CLEAR
RESULT OF THE DETERIORATING INTERNAL SECURITY SITUATION.
GERARD

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NNN

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